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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ronald D. Stieger

Serial No.: 09/894,189

Filed: June 27, 2001

For: OPTICAL COMMUNICATION
SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE
ERROR CORRECTION CODING

Docket No.: 4524.P020

Examiner: Stephen M. Baker

Art Unit: 2133

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**AMENDMENT B AFTER FINAL REJECTION**
37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed March 9, 2004, for the above-noted patent application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner do the following with this amendment:

1. Please enter the amendments to the specification, if any, in section I.
2. Please enter the amendments to the claims, if any, in section II.
3. Please consider the amendments in sections I and II in view of the remarks in section III.

P020 - Amendment B (AF)
BSTZ Seattle

- 1 -

Introduction

JUN 08 2004

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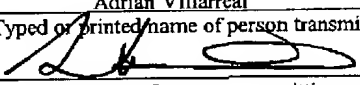
Deliver to: Examiner Stephen M. Baker
Firm Name: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Fax Number: (703) 872-9306 Telephone No.: _____
From: Todd M. Becker
Date: June 8, 2004 Time: _____
Operator: Adrian Villarreal Matter: 4524.P020
Number of pages including cover sheet: 19 pages
In Re Patent Application of: Ronald D. Stieger
Application No.: 09/894,189
Filed: June 27, 2001
For: OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE ERROR
CORRECTION CODING
Enclosed are the following documents: Per your request.
Transmittal Letter (in duplicate) - 4 pages
Amendment B After Final Rejection - 14 pages

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05/01/03

Attorney's Docket No.: 4524.P020

Patent

In re the Application of: Ronald D. Stieger
(inventor(s))AMENDMENT UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDUREApplication No.: 09/894,189EXAMINING GROUP 2100Filed: June 27, 2001For: OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE ERROR CORRECTION CODING

(title)

Mail Stop AF
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450SIR: Transmitted herewith is an **Amendment After Final Action** for the above-referenced application.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

XX **No additional fee is required.**

A Notice of Appeal is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
	Claims Remaining After Amd.		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total Claims	* 44	Minus	** 44	0
Indep. Claims	* 5	Minus	*** 5	0
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s)				

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.
The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
X9	\$
X43	\$
+145	\$
Total Add. Fee	\$

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
X18	\$ 0
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_____ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached for presentation of additional claim(s).
_____ Applicant(s) hereby Petition(s) for an Extension of Time of _____ month(s) pursuant to
_____ 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

_____ A check for \$ _____ is attached for processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
_____ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 02-2666 the amount of \$ _____.

_____ **A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.**

X The Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States
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associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666
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X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for presentation of
extra claims.

X Any extension or petition fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 5-10-04

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